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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Divisional Application of

Yasuhiro SAKAI et al.

Parent Serial No.:

10/803,667

Parent Filed:

March 18, 2004

For:

Method of Staining and Detecting and Counting

Bacteria, and a Diluent for Bacterial Stain

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

Examiner:

Group Art:

March 24, 2005

(Date of Deposit)

Kent H. Cheng

ame of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

March 24, 2005
Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

paper.

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.